

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 069615

21

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /067 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER
APPROVED BY NEA/P:MH VAN ORDER
S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)
EUR/P - MR. JERABEK
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
NEA/ARN - MR. BULLEN
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL
NEA - MR. SOBER

----- 016419

R 272018Z MAR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
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PAGE 02 STATE 069615

AMEMBASSY SANAA

USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING MARCH 26, 1975:

QUOTE: Q. DID THE SECRETARY MEET PERSONALLY WITH THE VICE
PRESIDENT BEFORE HE LEFT FOR SAUDI ARABIA? I ASK THE
QUESTION WITH PARTICULAR REGARD TO THE MEETING THAT VICE
PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER HAD WITH PRESIDENT SADAT.

A. I CANNOT TELL YOU WHETHER HE PERSONALLY MET WITH HIM,
BUT YOU CAN ASSUME, AND I WOULD ASSUME, THAT HE OBVIOUSLY
WAS IN TOUCH WITH HIM, WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT, BEFORE HE
LEFT.

NOW, I REMEMBER THEY HAD LUNCH TOGETHER, BUT THAT WAS BEFORE
THE QUESTION OF GOING TO SAUDI ARABIA AROSE. IT WAS THE DAY
AFTER WE GOT BACK THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT CAME HERE AND HAD
LUNCH. BUT I THINK YOU SHOULD JUST ASSUME THAT THEY WERE

OBVIOUSLY IN CONTACT BEFORE THE VICE PRESIDENT TOOK OFF.

Q. HAS THE SECRETARY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE SOVIETS SINCE
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PAGE 03 STATE 069615

HIS RETURN HERE, EITHER -- I DON'T BELIEVE THE AMBASSADOR
IS BACK.

A. THAT IS TRUE. THE REPORT I READ IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS
WRONG.

Q. AT A LEVEL BELOW THE AMBASSADOR, HAS IT BEEN IN TOUCH
HERE WITH THE EMBASSY OR WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW?

A. I DO NOT KNOW. I WILL CHECK AND SEE IF I CAN FIND OUT FOR YOU. IF YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT THE QUESTION OF, YOU KNOW, RETURNING TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, I CAN GIVE YOU AN ANSWER ON THAT. THE ANSWER IS NO. YOU CAN GO BACK TO WHAT THE SECRETARY SAID YESTERDAY.

Q. BUT HE HANST BEEN IN TOUCH WITH --

A. ON THAT HE SAID, "WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. SO YOU CAN ASSUME THAT HE HAS NOT BEEN IN TOUCH ON THIS SUBJECT.

Q. BOB, ON THE ASSESSMENT OF THE MIDDLE EAST POLICY, DO YOU HAVE ANY MORE INFORMATION THAN YOU HAD THE OTHER DAY ON HOW IT ACTUALLY WILL BE CONDUCTED? WILL IT BE A NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM?

A. NO, I DO NOT. YOU MEAN ON WHAT THE STRUCTURE IS GOING TO BE AND WHO IS GOING TO DO IT?

Q. YES.

A. NO, I DO NOT HAVE ANYTHING.

Q. HAS THE SECRETARY BEEN MEETING IN THE LAST FEW DAYS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS TO DISCUSS THE MIDDLE EAST?

A. I KNOW OF NOTHING. I KNOW OF NO SUCH MEETINGS ON HIS CALENDAR SINCE WE HAVE RETURNED. HE HAS BEEN MEETING, AS WE KNOW, WITH CONGRESSIONAL GROUPS, TALKING WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS -- A WHITE HOUSE MEETING WITH THE LEADERSHIP ON THE MIDDLE EAST. AS FAR AS MEETING WITH PRIVATE GROUPS, UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 STATE 069615

I AM UNAWARE OF ANY. I WILL DOUBLECHECK IT, THOUGH. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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